GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:746
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2008
DECLINE IN QUANTUM OF POSTAL WORK
Rana Shri Kashi Ram;Renge Patil Shri Tukaram Ganpatrao

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any survey to ascertain that the quantum of postal work being handled by the Department of Posts is declining;

(b) if so, the salient features of said survey;

(c) the total number of employees rendered workless in absence of adequate work;

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in view of shrinking network;

(e) the success achieved by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) No specific survey has been undertaken by the Department of Posts on the subject. However collection of data petaining to quantum of work is an ongoing process which shows decline in quantum of work in certain areas but increase in other areas.The mail volumes of ordinary mail have come down over the years but Speed Post, Business Post, International Money Transfer through Western Union, Post Office Insurance Fund and International Mail volumes have increased.

(b) Does not aise in view of (a) above.

(c) No employee has been rendered workless. Periodical review of all Post Offices is carried out at fixed intervals. The staff found surplus during such review is redeployed to the needy offices. As a result of expansion of cities Post Offices with lesser workload are relocated in newly developed areas.

(d) Network is not shrinking but it is changing its profile. The Department has been focusing on increasing the revenue from premium services like Speed Post, Express Parcel Post, Business Post, e-post, Retail Post, electronic international money transfer etc. which are increasingly becoming popular. Retail network of the Department has been leveraged for providing new services and generating additional revenue;

(e) The business revenue earned by the Department from Premium Services and other important services in the past three years shows an upward trend as given below:

(i) Speed Post, Express Parcel Post, Business Post etc.

Year Revenue (Rs. In Crores)

2004-05 953.034

2005-06 1198.69

2006-07 1509.46

(ii) International Money transfer through Western Union

Year No. of Transactions Revenue (Rs. In lakhs)

2004-05 354398 1103.00

2005-06 898003 2159.70

2006-07 2140241 4419.57

(iii) International mail (outward)

Year No of EMS items No. of Parcels Weight of letter mail in Kg.

2004 640469 129641 2831375

2005 756228 132281 2967802

2006 881141 166503 3126053